

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 025216

67

ORIGIN INT-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 R

DRAFTED BY NT/DOTA/ WYTTEBACH/CKR

APPROVED BY INT/DOTA/ERICE

----- 015438

O 022201Z PEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 025216

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, TQ

SUBJECT: PRESS RELEASE

DOTA NO. 050-TT

HAVE TRIED TO SEND FOLLOWING DRAFT NEWS RELEASE BY TELEX  
BUT CANNOT GET THROUGH TO SAIPAN.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- NEWS RELEASE FOR MNS.

SENATOR STROM THURMOND (R - S.C.) EXPRESSING WARM ADMIR-  
ATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS, PRESENTED A FORCEFUL  
CASE FOR EARLY POSITIVE ACTION BY THE SENATE ON THE  
MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH COVENANT DURING THE SENATE ARMED  
SERVICES COMMITTEE SESSION, JANUARY 27. THE COMMITTEE  
VOTED NINE TO SIX IN FAVOR OF EARLY SENATE APPROVAL OF  
THE COVENANT.

SENATOR THURMOND DESCRIBED THE LONG-HELD ASPIRATIONS OF  
THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS TO BECOME AMERICAN  
CITIZENS AND STATED, "IT STRIKES ME AS RATHER ODD THAT  
THIS GREAT NATION NOW OBSERVING ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY IS

EVEN HESITATING TO RECEIVE A MERE 15,000 PEOPLE WHO  
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PAGE 02 STATE 025216

WISH TO BECOME AMERICAN CITIZENS. REJECTION OF THIS RE-

QUEST IN THE SENATE WOULD BE AN ODD BICENTENNIAL HAPPEN-  
ING. SURELY, THE MEMBERS (OF THE COMMITTEE) MUST REALIZE  
THAT OUR GOVERNMENT HAS NEGOTIATED THIS AGREEMENT OVER A  
PERIOD OF SEVERAL YEARS. WITH ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE  
APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES IN THE CONGRESS, AS WELL AS A  
NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS, INCLUDING BOTH THE  
SENATORS FROM HAWAII."

"THE POPULATION OF 15,000 CONSISTS OF ABOUT 2,000 FAM-  
ILIES. THE MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVES TELL ME THEIR FAM-  
ILIES ARE CLOSE, AND THEY TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES. AT  
PRESENT, ONLY A FEW HUNDRED ARE ON WELFARE, BASED ON  
THEIR CURRENT TRUST TERRITORIAL STATUS. THE COMMITTEE  
MUST REALIZE THAT THE BIRTHRATE OF THE UNITED STATES PRO-  
VIDES FOR AN INCREASE OF 15,000 PEOPLE IN ONLY THREE DAYS,  
AND THE NET GAIN CONSIDERING IMMIGRATION AND OTHER FACTORS  
IS 8,000 PER DAY, A NUMBER WHICH WOULD BE GREATER IN TWO  
DAYS THAN THOSE COMING IN FROM THE MARIANAS. THOSE  
CITIZENS BRING SOMETHING TO US, SOMETHING OF GREAT BENEFIT,  
THEIR LAND, AND THEIR PATRIOTISM."  
END OF QUOTE.

DOTA SENDS.  
INGERSOLL

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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